

Minutes of the Waukesha County Criminal Justice Collaborating Council Wednesday, July 30, 2008

The meeting was called to order at 8:36 a.m.

Present: Judge Mac Davis, Brad Schimel, Carolyn Evenson, Peter Schuler, Sam Benedict, Marcia Jante, Dan Vrakas, Karl Held, Larry Nelson (arrived at 8:55 a.m.). **Absent:** Susan Dreyfus, Jim Dwyer, Dan Trawicki, and Paul Giesler.

Also Present: Mike Giese, Sara Carpenter, Clara Daniels, Bonnie Morris, Mike Demars, Reverend Ralph Schultz and Karen Phillips.

Approve Minutes of June 25, 2008 Meeting

The minutes of June 25, 2008 were approved as corrected with unanimous consent.

Update on Data and Reporting Issues

Evenson stated a data warehouse users group meeting was held to look at ways to resolve the issues between the Spillman system and the data warehouse. Another meeting will be held next week to review the progress. Bob Gibson will be preparing a report that will target the programming needs. Schuler stated he has been trying to reach Bob Gibson by phone in order to obtain that information. Evenson stated goal the is to establish two initiatives for the new CJCC Coordinator:

- Achievement of a comfort level with the information coming out of the data warehouse, and to use that information as a basis for generating reports for the Council
- To work with the Pretrial Subcommittee to identify what program information needs to be tracked in order to produce information about the effectiveness of programs

Davis asked what the expected timeline would be for completion of these initiatives. Evenson stated the work on the first initiative should be done soon, possibly in about one month. Diane Kelsner has been working on looking at statues and establishing the proper hierarchy. Evenson stated the timeline for the second initiative is unknown at this point. The Pretrial Subcommittee needs to agendize a discussion about how to go forward and identify what types of data are needed to give the CJCC, County Board, County Executive and others, information regarding the effectiveness and results of the programs that we have in place.

Review and Consider the 2009 CJCC Budget

Schuler distributed and reviewed handouts outlining the 2009 CJCC budget. He stated that the statistics for programs new to the CJCC are near completion, specifically the Adult Basic Education, Alcohol Treatment and Crisis Services Programs.

Schuler summarized the highlights of the statistics for each of the various programs within the 2009 CJCC budget. He stated the highlights reflect some very significant changes. A new County tax levy of \$120,000 has been provided for 2009. The Office of Justice Assistance 3-year Alcohol Treatment Court Grant is ending; however, it is estimated that approximately \$47,000 will be available at the end of this fiscal year to carryover into next year, provided the Office of Justice Assistance grants the carryover. Also reflected is a reduction of \$48,000 from the State of Wisconsin Homeless Grant. The grant was targeted at the Community Integration Program and paid for the services of a half-time worker in the jail to assist the full time social worker.

Personnel costs reflect an increase of \$12,733, which represents the estimation that the new CJCC Coordinator would be hired at level 1 of range 11 (the new reclassified level) and includes the cost for the family plan insurance.

Schuler reviewed the decreases in operating expenses in the 2009 budget. The total operating expenses for the budget have gone down \$71,948. The primary reason is the loss of the Treatment Court and Homeless Grants. Approximately \$75,000 of the new \$120,000 tax levy will go toward the continuation of the Alcohol Treatment Court. The allocation of \$120,000 is targeted at \$110,000 for the contract proposal submitted by WCS to continue the Alcohol Treatment Court and an additional \$10,000 for other expenses; however, there is some tax levy carryover so not all of the new tax levy will be required.

Schuler reviewed the costs to continue contracts for the Pretrial Screening, Pretrial Supervision, Operating After Revocation, Community Services Options and Day Reporting Programs. WCTC has requested the County to continue funding in the amount of \$45,000 toward the Adult Basic Education Program in the Jail. Schuler stated that WCTC has conducted fundraising as well as applied for the WIRED grant in attempt to restore the lost grant funding from the Institutionalized Individual Grant.

Schuler reviewed the major strategic outcomes and objectives within the budget. He stated that Objective #1, regarding the number of jail days saved, would be modified. Schuler said there are a number of programs that should be listed that are saving both Huber days and main jail days. Jante questioned how the dollar figures came about. Schuler explained the process of figuring the dollar value of not having someone in jail versus the costs of operation including capital, staffing and ongoing maintenance of the facility. Evenson added that much effort has been put forth to accurately determine the figures without overstatement, and these figures are a very reasonable reflection of the true savings.

Update on Recruitment Process of CJCC Coordinator

Evenson stated 121 applications had passed the initial screening process. Davis reviewed the recruitment process thus far. Eleven people have been selected to interview on August 4. Final interviews will be held on August 18. Quite possibly a new coordinator would be hired by the first of September or October.

Discussion of the Development of a Waukesha County CJCC “Report to Community” Newsletter Similar to Rock County’s CJCC Report

Evenson stated that she and Jante had discussed development of a CJCC newsletter for Waukesha County. They would like input from the Committee before proceeding with the development, such as what type of information to provide, who is the target audience and how often to put out the newsletter. Jante stated she is the Chair of the Public Relations and Education Committee of the CJCC. This would be the first project for the Committee since its formation. Jante and Evenson discussed the some of the goals and motives for the newsletter.

Schuler stated he views the newsletter idea as very positive way to provide education to the community, County Board members and partner agencies. Providing links to pertinent websites in the newsletter would help spread the information and help with referral processes.

Nelson stated his support for the newsletter in that it would be useful to the City Common Council, elected officials throughout the County, (Waukesha County Cooperation Council), as well as the media. Vrakas expressed his support of the newsletter as an effective means to inform and educate the citizens of Waukesha County about the CJCC. Davis suggested putting out the newsletter once a year, unless there is some newsworthy development, and distributing it electronically as well as a link on other websites.

Update and Discussion of CJCC Website Development

Evenson discussed the development of a CJCC webpage that would link to the Courts and Human Services websites. The website would provide some of the same information as found in the CJCC newsletter. Evenson stated much information already exists on the Supreme Court website. She stated that while serving on the State Effective Justice Strategy Committee, their goal was to share information about collaborating councils and programs with other counties in the State. The Department of Justice has developed a database that includes all of the programs that every county has in place.

Jante informed the Committee about the Wisconsin Family Impact Seminars offered through the UW-Madison Extension. The seminars are targeted mainly for state policy makers. Specific issues are examined and briefing reports are prepared. Subsequently, experts from across the county are brought in to address the particular issue. Information is made available to legislators to consider in future legislation. Vrakas stated he had participated in these seminars as a state legislator and provided some background information. He explained that perhaps this program would be useful to make the CJCC more visible. The Committee agreed to have Jante pursue obtaining more information on presenting similar seminars on a local basis.

Future Meeting Date

The next CJCC meeting is scheduled for September 24, 2008.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:29 a.m.